



**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®
OF PENNSYLVANIA—Citizen Education Fund**

Submission Date: July 8, 2014

**MID-TERM REPORT PER ARTICLE X OF GRANT AGREEMENT:
#DTPH56-13-G-PHPT13, "Technical Assistance Grants to
Communities Program"**

U.S. Department of Transportation, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration

Project Title: League of Women Voter's project to expand its existing Water Resources Education Network (WREN) program to address pipeline issues

Project/Performance Period: Twelve months from effective date of award - 9/30/13

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"Be Prepared" Project Objectives Summary

- to identify areas where pipeline planning is needed;
- to develop or extend groups of informal collaborative organizations and public officials to address issues regarding pipelines and water;
- to provide educational opportunities that promote recommendations for informed planning at the grass-roots level;
- to conduct events featuring experts in the area of degradation – be it ground and surface water from pipeline projects or pipelines from surface water;
- to conduct events with “experts” regarding considerations in siting of natural gas pipelines and land use; and
- to locate and/or develop resources for distribution by hand, internet, and/or newsletter
- to address collaboratively relevant recommendations from PIPA, the *Report to the General Assembly on Pipeline Placement of Natural Gas Gathering Lines (Report to General Assembly)*¹ as well as those from *Pipelines in Pennsylvania: A Case Study of Lycoming County (Lycoming Study)*.²
- to facilitate process of moving education into active planning
- to assess learning, monitor collaborate planning efforts, and communicate results

"Be Prepared" Mid-Term Status Summary

GOAL	OBJECTIVES	MILESTONES
Focus on pipeline planning in watershed areas with expanding pipeline infrastructure	Identify areas where pipeline planning is needed	October to November <ul style="list-style-type: none">• identify three areas where planning is needed based on given criteria

Status: Two of three areas have been initially identified, Lancaster and Columbia Counties. Both have drinking water coalitions that have recently formed with WREN support, have and/or are expecting new 36- 42" natural gas pipelines, are dependent on groundwater aquifers, have a large number of private well owners located in rural areas, and particularly in Lancaster County, have significant carbonate geology (karst topography) that is prone to sinkholes. Since 2013, WREN has been working with the Columbia and Montour County Conservation Districts to foster a new source water protection coalition known as the Columbia-Montour Source Water Protection Coalition, with PADEP funding. Partners are: Columbia County Commissioners, Columbia County Emergency Management Agency, United Water Pennsylvania, Catawissa Water Authority, Fishing Creek Watershed Association.

¹http://files.dep.state.pa.us/OilGas/BOGM/BOGMPortalFiles/Act13/PipelinePlacementReport/FINAL_REPORT.pdf

² Report funded by PHMSA Technical Assistance Grant #DTPH56-11-G-PHPT20 to the Citizen Education Fund of the League of Women Voters of Pennsylvania.

GOAL	OBJECTIVES	MILESTONES
Promote pipeline planning by establishing collaborative groups of key stakeholders	Develop or extend groups of informal collaborative organizations to address issues regarding pipelines and water	November to January <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approach existing collaborative watershed groups to determine interest • Communicate with key stakeholder groups, individuals, and pipeline operators in target areas to promote inclusion in collaborative planning process for pipelines • Determine three target groups based on criteria, inclusivity, and interest • Confirm group participation and establish mutually convenient date for initial meeting

GOAL	OBJECTIVES	MILESTONES
Promote pipeline planning through shared educational events on needs and benefits of collaboration	Conduct education program on recommendations for informed planning at grass roots level	January to March <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide presentations that promoting collaborative planning/PIPA Guidelines • Present success "stories" individuals and groups that have made a difference using informed planning • Facilitate discussion and next steps • Share relevant background information including recommendations from PIPA, Report to General Assembly, and Lycoming Study • Establish protocols for meetings • Develop calendar and timeline for next steps • Provide newsletter and/or website links as resources • Assess learning based on electronic feedback

STATUS: Project leader contacted a variety of stakeholders including source water protection coalitions and watershed/conservation groups with lackluster results initially. Responses to requests to partner and conduct pipeline safety education presentations were tepid, as at the time, natural gas pipelines were not viewed by many water systems to be a significant risk factor from a water pollution standpoint. Also, the pace of Marcellus natural gas development in some areas of PA has diminished a bit, and shifted to western PA and Ohio. As a result, Project leader decided to initially "fold in" pipeline safety education to existing well attended events and venues, rather than try to create separate sessions that may not attract the public and partners.

October - January - WREN strengthened partnerships with many local stakeholders in key target areas, including the Lancaster County Planning Commission, local area water systems, the Conservation District, Lancaster Conservancy, Lancaster Farmland Trust, local NRDC staff, PA Rural Water Association, PADEP, SSM Group (engineering firm), EPA Region 3, etc. During fall 2013, WREN assisted as a member of the steering committee for the new Lancaster collaborative known as "ELANCO" for Eastern Lancaster County Source Water Protection Collaborative, which formed in 2013. The effort is one of three EPA national source water protection pilots; coalition leader is the Lancaster County Planning Commission (LCPC).

WREN displayed pipeline safety information at the very successful Agricultural BMP public education forum held on 12/9/13 in East Earl Township titled, **"Protecting Your Water Begins with Your Land Ag BMP Workshop."** Workshop was attended by more than 400 eastern Lancaster County Plain Sect and Old Order Mennonite farmers. Positive working relationships have been growing with additional water systems expressing interest in working with WREN and in collaborative efforts with other systems.

- So far, many local water systems seem to see pipelines as a "backburner" issue for them given other infrastructure issues, increasing regulatory burdens about drinking water and pressing Chesapeake Bay stormwater mandates. Nonetheless, positive working relationships have been developed and groundwork has been done with LCPC and local groups that are committed to continue to work together.
- 10/26/13 - Project Leader Julie Kollar gave a talk at the Dauphin County Conservation District's Annual Watershed Summit, and referenced the many pipelines being installed along, around or under streams and rivers in the region, and the potential impacts on water resources. She advised the group of 30 watershed advocates to become educated about pipeline impacts and safety considerations, and displayed pipeline and PIPA materials, and pipeline resources available at the League's website.
- 11/14/13 - To assist LWVPA with a pipeline education forum, learn more about pipeline safety and network with local organizations, Project leader participated at the LWVPA Pipeline Safety public education meeting held at Berks County Ag Center on 11/14/13 in Leesport (under another TAG Grant from PHMSA). The session highlighted numerous potential water quality impacts from pipelines, both during construction (erosion & sedimentation. etc.) and maintenance (corridor herbicide/pesticide applications), and the resources available from WREN. Forum was attended by a few local municipal officials, the Berks County Planning Commission Director, members of the Berks County League of Women Voters and about 15 members of the public.
- 11/20 - 11/22, 2013 - Project leader attended the National Pipeline Safety Trust Conference in New Orleans as a representative of the League's pipeline safety team. WREN is collaborating with other PA League members to raise awareness about the need for local communities to become educated about pipeline safety issues and how pipelines can impact PA's water resources. Pipelines and compressor stations are being located near or in public water supply source water protection zones, often without awareness about siting options. Project leader has worked since 2001 to encourage source water protection prevention measures to protect public health with PADEP, water utility associations, conservation districts, watershed associations and many conservation groups and interested residents across Pennsylvania. Pipelines represent yet another potential source of contamination to public water supplies. Greater awareness is needed among water utility boards and staff about how to participate in pipeline siting decisions, emergency management, etc. Water suppliers also have miles of distribution lines. Without any current regulation of Class 1 gathering lines in PA, water system staff in many rural areas may be exposed to great risk just doing their jobs - repairing water line infrastructure, due to lack of knowledge about where gas lines are located.

Interest has accelerated during Spring 2014, especially in areas where new interstate pipelines have been proposed. While WREN is recognized as a credible trusted source for water public education in PA, it has taken time for water systems and other conservation groups to become aware that more pipelines are coming, and pose long term impacts and that WREN can assist and offer pipeline safety information.

A significant step forward was achieved: The PA Rural Water Association, a major industry association of water and wastewater utilities, agreed to allow LWVPA/WREN to conduct a Pipeline Safety Training class at its annual statewide conference in State College on March 26, 2014.

GOAL	OBJECTIVES	MILESTONES
Promote informed pipeline planning on risks to water resources from pipeline projects and to pipelines from water	<p>Conduct educational programs to cover risks to water resources from pipelines</p> <p>Conduct educational programs regarding risks to pipelines from water</p>	<p>March to May</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentations by water resource “experts” on ground and source water protection as well as relevant hydrogeology • Presentations on relevant environmental regulations by agency personnel • Facilitate discussion as to next steps • Provide newsletter and/or website links as resources • Assess learning based on electronic feedback • Encourage and facilitate community awareness and public education outreach by collaborative group on protecting ground and source water <p>May to July</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentations by “experts” pipeline operators/engineers/ One Call staff/emergency responders regarding pipeline incidents that result from such issues as: steep slopes, flooding, carbonate geology, erosion and related excavation around waterways • Presentations regarding “best practices” and oversight regarding construction to minimize risks relative to given water resources • Presentations by experts regarding “best practices” for mitigation and restoration in target areas • Presentations regarding damage prevention as well as emergency protocol and safety procedures in pipeline incidents • Facilitate discussions as to next steps • Provide newsletter and/or website links as resources • Assess learning based on electronic feedback • Encourage and facilitate community awareness and public education outreach by collaborative planning group on protecting pipelines from water-related damage.

STATUS: Interest has accelerated during Spring 2014, especially in areas where new interstate pipelines have been proposed. While WREN is recognized as a credible trusted source for water public education in PA, it has taken a bit of time for WREN's traditional partners to become aware that pipelines pose many long term impacts in watersheds and that WREN can assist and offer pipeline safety information. Many groups have very little knowledge to date about pipelines. Progress is being made.

- After persistent efforts, the PA Rural Water Association (www.prwa.com), a major association of water and wastewater utilities in Pennsylvania, agreed to allow LWVPA/WREN to conduct a Pipeline Safety Training class at its annual statewide conference in State College on **March 26, 2014**. Conference is typically attended by over 1200 water/wastewater systems.

- Project Leader worked with Roberta Winters on class curriculum/agenda. Coordinated all arrangements with PRWA and with additional speakers. Project leader prepared a Powerpoint presentation to highlight concerns about potential pipeline impacts in drinking water supply areas, and how PA DEP's source water protection program provides delineation of critical water supply areas that is useful to water systems and to help regulators and members of the public and pipeline operators understand critical water supply aquifer zones and intake areas on streams and rivers are located.

Pennsylvania Rural Water Association State Conference - March 26, 2014

Penn Stater, State College

PA LWVPA/WREN conducted a class titled: Pipeline Safety Awareness Class

9:00 am - 11:30 am Room #109

A Pipeline Primer

What You Need to Know to Protect Your Water

PRWA - 3/26/14

The development of natural gas in the Commonwealth is a “game changer.” Its transmission from the wellhead to customers can impact many aspects of our ability to provide safe drinking water to our communities. This workshop is designed to help you become familiar with the major components of the natural gas transmission system, learn about its potential environmental impacts to our waters, review steps needed to keep the natural gas infrastructure safe, and examine ways in which rural water authorities can provide valuable input in planning for pipelines.

Presenters include Roberta Winters, chair of the Pipeline Study of the League of Women Voters of Pennsylvania (LWVPA) and Julie Kollar, Project Director of Water Resources Environmental Network, a project of the Citizen Education Fund of LWVPA, Dr. Jim Schmid, President of Schmid & Company, Inc., and Kirk Kirkpatrick, of PA One Call System.

Presenters: Julie Kollar, Director, Water Resources Education Network (WREN)
 Dr. Roberta Winters, LWVPA, Chair Pipeline Safety Study Committee
 Dr. James Schmid, President, Schmid & Company (Consulting Ecologists)
 Kirk Kirkpatrick, PA One Call System, Inc. North West PA Coordinator

AGENDA

9:00 am - 9:05 am	Moderator Instructions/Introductions	Moderator
9:05 am - 9:35 am	Source Water Protection Principles and Pipelines	Julie Kollar, Director Water Resources Education Network/ LWVPA-CEF
9:35 am - 10:05 am	Pipeline Infrastructure and Regulations	Roberta Winters, LWVPA
10:05 - 10:20 am	BREAK	
10:20 am - 10:50 am	Pipelines & Geologic/Ecologic Considerations	Jim Schmid, President Schmid & Company, Inc.
10:50 am - 11:05 am	BREAK	
11:05 am - 11:25 am	PA One Call and Pipelines	Kirk Kirkpatrick, PA One Call System, Inc.
11:25 am - 11:30 am	Evaluation	

- Presentation content: principles of source water protection; delineation of water supply recharge areas, groundwater and surface waters, potential sources of contamination, public water systems may not have thought great deal about non-water pipes in the past but need to today. Pipeline systems and infrastructure; rural pipelines, environmental impacts on a broad scale relative to water, wetlands and forest fragmentation, erosion run off; pipeline marker issues; issues with unregulated gathering

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lines - bowl of spaghetti in PA; and other utility lines. Emergency management tips in rural and urban pipeline areas, avoiding disasters using services of PA One Call, upcoming education opportunities.

- 5/5/14 - The new coalition in north central PA, known as the Columbia-Montour County Source Water Protection Coalition, is being led by two county conservation districts, with support and a small grant from WREN (under its program with PA DEP Safe Drinking Water Fund). The partners requested WREN assist as a trusted source, to present pipeline safety education information in the community. Since development of natural gas in Pennsylvania is such a polarizing topic, unbiased conveners like WREN and the League can be very helpful to lay the groundwork to ensure civil public discourse with assistance from expert speakers. Planning is underway for WREN to conduct two pipeline education programs on May 5, 2014 in Bloomsburg, PA: one session will be conducted for County Commissioners with county planning invited. A second workshop for the Coalition's steering committee, public water systems, and the general public will also be provided.
 - Speakers will include Project Leader Julie Kollar on source water protection and relevance to better pipeline planning, Roberta Winters of LWVPA on components of pipeline systems, types of lines, safety precautions, regulated and unregulated lines, and Lynda Farrell, Executive Director of the Pipeline Safety Coalition, on the current regulatory regime in PA, how to participate in pipeline siting decisions, pipeline safety considerations, and new online tools like the Pipeline Notification Protocol being piloted in Chester County.

GOAL	OBJECTIVES	MILESTONES
Promote pipeline planning on siting of natural gas pipelines	Conduct educational programs regarding pipeline siting	June to August <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentations by “experts” regarding pipeline siting including regulatory agencies that address minimizing risks to water resources and to pipelines • Presentations regarding current and evolving technologies and on-line planning tools to assist in siting and avoiding critical factors such as sensitive environments, historical landmarks, and significant topographic features • Presentations regarding right-of way issues and relevant approval processes and appeals • Facilitate discussion as to next steps with emphasis on collaborative project planning • Provide newsletter and/or website links as resources • Assess learning based on electronic feedback • Encourage and facilitate community awareness and public education outreach by collaborative planning group on siting considerations

STATUS: A number of presentations been held or are being planned. Project leader is tracking development of Chester County PNP online system and recent filings by Sunoco and Williams.

- Pipeline materials and weblinks will be added to the WREN websites over the summer (www.sourcewaterpa.org and www.waterwisepa.org).

GOAL	OBJECTIVES	MILESTONES
Assess progress and communicate efforts	<p>Assess learning</p> <p>Monitor progress</p> <p>Disseminate results</p>	<p>August to October</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluate electronic results from pre- and post- testing results on presentations regarding water resources, risks to pipelines from water, and siting considerations • Compile informal feedback as possible • Observe, survey, and record efforts including but not limited to <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - outreach efforts in community awareness and public education - changes in pipeline routes relative to water resource considerations - changes in engineering practices in areas of critical water resources - modifications in emergency procedures and/or protocols involving pipelines (ie. use of One Call) - increased public consideration and/or participation regarding land use relative to pipeline projects - alterations in land use plans as a result of project efforts - increased use of on-line planning tools and location data to augment informed pipeline planning and safety • Review learning and assessment information. Gather informal feedback, survey information, and observations. Write final project report. • Disseminate project results through newsletter and/or website posting. • Thank participants and share results with collaborative planning groups

STATUS: To Be Completed. Paper surveys were developed and administered at events and will be compiled.

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